

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 15217 132201Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
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-----082357 140417Z /23

R 131339Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9401  
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
USMISSION SINAI  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 15217

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EG, PINT  
SUBJECT: TAKFIR TRIAL CONTINUES

REF: CAIRO 14758

1. COURT-MARTIAL RESUMED HEARINGS IN DHAHABI ASSASSINATION CASE SEPTEMBER 10. ALLEGATION THAT MILITARY TRIAL UNCONSTITUTIONAL DISMISSED, AS WERE OTHER DEFENSE MOTIONS CHALLENGING LEGALITY TAKFIR ARRESTS, DEFENDANTS' CONFESSIONS, ETC. IN RESPONSE, 17 OF COURT APPOINTED DEFENSE LAWYERS WITHDREW FROM CASE.

2. FOLLOWING DAY, ACCUSED WERE CONFRONTED BY MEMBERS DHAHABI FAMILY AND OTHER EYE WITNESSES TO KIDNAPPING. NUMBER OF THOSE IMPLICATED WERE POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 15217 132201Z

3. SEPTEMBER 13 AKHBAR, ALONE OF CAIRO DAILIES, STATED MEDICAL INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGATIONS OF POLICE TORTURE FOUND CHARGES GROUNDLESS. PAPER QUOTED REPORT SUBMITTED TO COURT-MARTIAL BY MEDICAL EXAMINER IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL. REPORTEDLY, HE CONCLUDED FROM PHYSICAL EVIDENCE THAT ACCUSED UNABLE DEMONSTRATE ANY SIGNS OF MISTREATMENT, BEYOND BRUISES FROM CHAFING OF HANDCUFFS.

4. COURT-MARTIAL WILL BE RESUMED AFTER BAIRAM, NOW SCHEDULED BEGIN SEPTEMBER 14. PAPERS ALSO SAY THAT INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF TANZIIM AL JIHAD ORGANIZATION WILL RESUME AT THAT TIME. ACCORDING PRESS, SIXTY-FIVE INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN IMPLICATED IN THIS GROUP; SOME (NUMBER NOT GIVEN) ALREADY IN CUSTODY.

5. COMMENT: PRESS CONTINUES STRESS COURT-MARTIAL'S CONCERN FOR DEFENDANTS' LEGAL RIGHTS. THEY CONTINUING SPEAK REASONABLY FREELY DURING PROCEEDINGS AND HAVE BEEN GIVEN OPPORTUNITY QUESTION PROSECUTION WITNESSES DIRECTLY, AS HAVE THEIR ATTORNEYS. WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERS DEFENSE TEAM, HOWEVER, MAY AFFECT PUBLIC PERCEPTION TRIAL'S FAIRNESS. AT VERY LEAST, IT MAY DELAY FURTHER COURT PROCEEDINGS.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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